

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

R TWR
ACTION COPY

This document must be returned to the Department of State

38-W

SECRET

Action

EUR

FROM: BONN

Info

RMR

TO: Secretary of State

SS

NO: 2092, MARCH 20, 8 PM

W

G

SP

C

L

INR

H

NIACT
SENT DEPARTMENT 2092, REPEATED INFORMATION PARIS 721, LONDON
518, BERLIN 717.

PARIS PASS AMBASSADOR BRUCE, HILLENBRAND.

LIMIT DISTRIBUTION

NOFORN

REFERENCE: DEPTEL 2173, MARCH 19.

WE BELIEVE CHANCELLOR MADE POINTS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM IN
REFERENCE TELEGRAM. ACKERMANN IS EXPERIENCED REPORTER WHO HAS
ALWAYS BEEN BOTH FRANK AND CAREFUL IN WHAT HE TELLS US.
HE ATTENDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AND TODAY REVIEWED FOR
US HIS NEARLY VERBATIM NOTES.

POSSIBILITY EXISTS CHANCELLOR WAS MERELY "THINKING OUT LOUD"
OR THAT HE MAY SAY SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT LATER. HOWEVER,
WE THINK IT PRUDENT TO ASSUME CHANCELLOR WAS IN EFFECT
TELLING HIS CLOSE ASSOCIATES THAT AS HE ANALYZED THE DEVELOPING
SITUATION HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY UNDER CERTAIN CIR-
CUMSTANCES TO TAKE STEF WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO DE FACTO
RECOGNITION OF THE GDR. SOME BACKGROUND REASONS AS TO WHY THE
CHANCELLOR MAY HAVE COME TO THIS CONCLUSION WERE SET FORTH IN
EXBASSY DESPATCH 971, DECEMBER 22. WE BELIEVE THAT HIS
CURRENT REASONING IS AS FOLLOWS (A) KEY TO GERMAN SECURITY IS
PRESENCE UNITED STATES FORCES FEDERAL REPUBLIC WITHIN NATO FRAMEWORK
(B) IN HIS HIERARCHY OF VALUE REUNIFICATION DEFINITELY

PERMANENT
RECORD COPY • This copy must be returned to RM/R central files w/
date

SECRET

UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"
DECLASSIFICATION DATE

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 887404

By AF NARA Date 1-8-10

RETURN TO CHIEF RECORDS BRANCH, R.R. #2, GA-10
REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

76-3015-205

CLASSIFIED FILE
CIA

DATE

BY

REASON

REASON

REASON

REASON

REASON

~~SECRET~~

-2- 2092, MARCH 20, 8 PM FROM BONN

SUBORDINATE TO SECURITY; (C) HIS OWN PEOPLE ARE FEARFUL OF WAR; (D) HE DOES NOT CONSIDER BERLIN WORTH SERIOUS RISK OF NUCLEAR WAR; (E) HE WOULD NATURALLY PREFER STATUS QUO AND GIVEN HIS OWN CHOICE WOULD DO NO MORE THAN NEGOTIATE INTERMINABLY ON SOMETHING LIKE "GENERAL DISARMAMENT"; (F) HE IS PROBABLY FEARFUL THAT UNDER MACMILLAN'S INFLUENCE WESTERN SIDE MAY SERIOUSLY CONSIDER NEGOTIATING SUCH MATTERS AS DISENGAGEMENT AND THINNING OUT OF FORCES WHICH WOULD AFFECT BASIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC SECURITY (EMBTTEL 2024); (G) TO AVOID BOTH THIS AND NUCLEAR WAR IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IN EXTREMES TO MAKE SACRIFICES IN CONNECTION WITH REUNIFICATION AND EVEN BERLIN.

THIS IS WHAT WE THINK ADENAUER MAY WELL HAVE HAD IN MIND. IT WOULD, HOWEVER, PROBABLY REPRESENT FALBACK POSITION WHICH HE WOULD AGREE TO RELUCTANTLY AND AS A LAST RESORT AND WHICH HE WOULD NOT HIMSELF PRESENT PUBLICLY OR TO HIS ALLIES IF HE CAN AVOID DOING SO.

TASCA

SGC

Note: Advance copy Mr. Vigderman (EUR) 3:30 pm. 3/20-CWO-JSW.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 887404
By AR NARA Date 1-8-90